

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

1-8. (canceled)

9. (currently amended) ~~The polymeric twist tie as recited in claim 8 wherein~~ A polymeric twist tie comprising;

a thermoplastic monofilament having an oriented characteristic produced by stretching a preheated monofilament through a heated volume reducing die, wherein said oriented thermoplastic monofilament is high density polyethylene material, with said high density polyethylene monofilament having a characteristic achieved by preheating the monofilament to at least 250 degrees F. (121.1 degrees C.) and stretched through a tapered die preheated to at least 250degrees F (121.1 degrees C.) decreasing its original area greater than 5 times,

an extruded thermoplastic coating enclosing said monofilament, and

at least one grippable wing extension integral with the coating extending outwardly therefrom such that the tie may be twisted upon itself with the monofilament retaining its basic configuration and the wing extension stretching and bending to conform within a coupled twist.

10. (currently amended) ~~The polymeric twist tie as recited in claim 1~~ A polymeric twist tie comprising;

a thermoplastic monofilament having an oriented characteristic produced by stretching a preheated monofilament through a heated volume reducing die,

an extruded thermoplastic coating enclosing said monofilament,

at least one grippable wing extension integral with the coating extending outwardly therefrom such that the tie may be twisted upon itself with the monofilament retaining its basic configuration and the wing extension stretching and bending to conform within a coupled twist, and

wherein said extruded coating and at least one grippable wing extension further comprises a low density polyethylene.

11. (previously amended) The polymeric twist tie as recited in claim 10 wherein said low density polyethylene extruded coating and wing extension comprises a coating on the monofilament and wing extensions produced with said low density polyethylene under heat and pressure.

12. (currently amended) ~~The polymeric twist tie as recited in claim 1~~ A polymeric twist tie comprising:

a thermoplastic monofilament having an oriented characteristic produced by stretching a preheated monofilament through a heated volume reducing die,

an extruded thermoplastic coating enclosing said monofilament, wherein said extruded thermoplastic coating on the monofilament has a thickness of from .001 to .010 inches (.0025 to .025 cm.), and

at least one grippable wing extension integral with the coating extending outwardly therefrom such that the tie may be twisted upon itself with the monofilament retaining its basic configuration and the wing extension stretching and bending to conform within a coupled twist.

13-16 (canceled)

17. (currently amended) ~~The polymeric twist tie as recited in claim 15~~ A polymeric twist tie comprising:

at least one oriented thermoplastic monofilament having dead fold properties,

an extruded thermoplastic coating circumferentially enclosing said thermoplastic monofilament,

said coating including a pair of opposed wing extensions extending from either side of said monofilament such that the tie may be twisted upon itself with the monofilament

retaining its basic configuration and the wing extensions stretching and bending to conform within a coupled twist, and

wherein said oriented monofilament is high density polyethylene and said thermoplastic coating is low density polyethylene.

18. (canceled)

19. (currently amended) ~~The polymeric twist tie as recited in claim 18~~ A polymeric twist tie comprising:

an extrusion of oriented thermoplastic monofilament encased in a thermoplastic coating,

a pair of opposed wing extensions simultaneously formed with the coating, such that the tie may be twisted upon itself with the monofilament retaining its basic configuration and the wing extensions stretching and bending to conform within a coupled twist, and

wherein said oriented monofilament is pure natural high density polyethylene and said thermoplastic coating is pure natural low density polyethylene.

20-25. (withdrawn)

26-30. (canceled)